

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 617 because it will allow the state more flexibility in establishing financial protections for information technology contracts. However, the language crafted in this bill is technically incorrect, in that it requires the Department of General Services (DGS) to consult with the Department of Finance (DOF) to develop and maintain criteria for the evaluation of risk to the State that results from the acquisition of information technology by June 1, 2008. Pursuant to current law, Chapter 183, Statutes of 2007, nearly all the employees and responsibilities of the DOF's Office of Technology, Review and Oversight are to be transferred to the State Chief Information Officer (OCIO) on January 1, 2008.

Therefore, I am directing the DGS to coordinate these activities with the OCIO and DOF. I also note that the development and maintenance of risk assessment results may be delayed until a framework of information technology oversight is in place, and appropriate resources are available to address this work load at OCIO and DOF.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger